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DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:P.MAYHEW/ACG

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:R.H.MILLER

ACDA/IR:W.GIVAN

DOD: D.ANDERSON

PM/DCA:J.SALMON

AEC: S. THOMPSON

NSC: M.GUHIN

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: OPENING CCD STATEMENT

CLEARED DRAFT OF OPENING CCD STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

1. THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT RESUMES ITS DISCUSSIONS AT A TIME WHEN THE INITIATIVES FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS TAKEN IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, AND OFTEN MENTIONED IN THIS COMMITTEE, HAVE CONFIRMED BY THEIR PROGRESS THAT WE ARE ENTERING "AN ERA OF NEGOTIATION."

2. ONE ENCOURAGING SIGN IS THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS NOW UNDERWAY AT THE MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTION TALKS IN VIENNA

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INVOLVING MANY OF THE COUNTRIES PRESENT HERE IN THE CCD.

ALL OF US REALIZE HOW COMPLEX A MATTER IT IS TO NEGOTIATE EQUITABLE REDUCTIONS IN TROOP LEVELS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THEREFORE, NONE OF US EXPECTED THAT THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THOSE TALKS COULD HAVE REACHED EASY AND EARLY AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS WHICH WOULD BE BALANCED SO AS NOT TO DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF THE OTHER SIDE. YET, THE TALKS HAVE PROCEEDED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND SERIOUS FASHION, AND THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY EACH SIDE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO THE THOROUGH EXAMINATION THAT TAKES PLACE WHEN BOTH SIDES WISH TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS. WE IN THE CCD HAVE EVERY REASON TO HOPE THE NEGOTIATORS IN VIENNA WILL REACH AN AGREEMENT ON A REDUCTION OF TROOP LEVELS IN EUROPE.

3. THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUE IN AN EFFORT TO PLACE ADDITIONAL CONTROLS ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE WEAPONS SYSTEMS AND EVENTUALLY TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF THESE SYSTEMS DEPLOYED BY OURSELVES AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION ON SALT, ESTABLISHED BY THE US-USSR ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE TREATY, HAS ALSO BEGUN TO MEET TO PROMOTE THE OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT AGREEMENT AND OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. THIS COMMISSION IS A REFLECTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INITIAL SALT AGREEMENTS, AND THE STRONG DESIRE OF THE PARTIES TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVELY THOSE AGREEMENTS.

4. THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE HAS MET HERE IN GENEVA FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT, IT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO RELAXING TENSIONS AND ENHANCING SECURITY IN EUROPE BY BUILDING FURTHER CONFIDENCE BETWEEN NATIONS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THE CSCE COULD MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS INCREASED COOPERATION IN EUROPE BY ADOPTING EFFECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT. IT COULD ALSO ASSIST BY AGREEMENTS TO INCREASE HUMAN CONTACTS, EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION.

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5. ALL OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS OWE SOMETHING TO THE PIONEERING EFFORTS OF THIS COMMITTEE, WHICH SET AN EXAMPLE AS A SERIOUS, EFFECTIVE MULTILATERAL GROUP DEALING IN A SUSTAINED WAY WITH THE IMPORTANT ISSUES THAT BEAR UPON THE SECURITY OF ALL STATES. THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THIS COMMITTEE, WHICH SHOW THAT EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS REQUIRE PATIENCE, PERSEVERENCE,

THOROUGH EXPLORATION OF THE ISSUES AND A DETERMINATION TO ATTAIN LASTING SOLUTIONS, HAVE PROVIDED A MODEL FOR THESE OTHER FORUMS. WE EXPECT THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN THESE FORUMS WILL IN TURN CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHER PROGRESS IN THIS COMMITTEE.

6. IN AN AREA OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THIS COMMITTEE, NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS SINCE WE LAST GATHERED HERE. DURING THE LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION UN MEMBERS PARTY TO THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY ESTABLISHED A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE. THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, WHICH

HAS JUST COMPLETED ITS FIRST MEETING, HAS PROPOSED THAT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OPEN MAY 5, 1975. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH OTHER PARTIES TO THE NPT TO MAKE THE REMAINING PREPARATORY MEETINGS, NOW SCHEDULED FOR NEXT AUGUST AND FEBRUARY 1975, AND THE REVIEW CONFERENCE ITSELF A SUCCESS.

7. FOLLOWING ON LAST YEAR'S CONCLUSION OF AN IAEA-EURATOM SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS COMPLETED THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES FOR ITS RATIFICATION OF THE NPT. IN ADDITION, A MEMBER OF THIS COMMITTEE, JAPAN, HAS INDICATED IT WILL INITIATE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES LEADING TOWARD RATIFICATION OF THE NPT. WE, OF COURSE, HOPE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WILL ALSO ADHERE TO THIS MAJOR ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT IN TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1975 REVIEW CONFERENCE, WHICH MAY INFLUENCE THE COURSE OF NON-PROLIFERATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR SOME YEARS AHEAD. WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO NOTE THAT BOTH SUDAN AND GABON HAVE ADHERED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NPT IN RECENT MONTHS. BOTH STATES, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR ADHERENCE TO THE TREATY AND THEIR REPRESENTATION ON THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, ARE NOW MEMBERS OF THE NPT PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

8. I SHOULD NOW LIKE TO TURN TO SOME OF THE IMPORTANT TASKS CURRENTLY BEFORE THIS COMMITTEE. IN REGARD TO THE COMMITTEE'S WORK ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, DELEGATIONS WILL RECALL THAT IN OUR LAST SESSION MY DELEGATION DISCUSSED SOME OF THE PROBLEMS AND CONSIDERATIONS WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE COMMITTEE. WE LOOK FORWARD THIS SESSION TO HEARING THE VIEWS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS ON OUR STATEMENTS AND ON OTHER ISSUES INVOLVED.

9. WE REMAIN FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE OBJECTIVE OF ACHIE-

VING EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL RESTRAINTS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN AUGUST 1973 I TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT MY DELEGATION HAD NOT SUBMITTED A SPECIFIC CW TREATY PROPOSAL BECAUSE WE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY APPROACH WHICH WE COULD BE CONFIDENT WOULD RESOLVE THE DIFFICULTIES SURROUNDING THIS SUBJECT. MY GOVERNMENT HAS CONTINUED ITS STUDIES OF ALL THE ISSUES RELATED TO POSSIBLE RESTRAINTS ON CW, HAS CAREFULLY STUDIED THE STATEMENTS AND WORKING PAPERS SUBMITTED BY VARIOUS DELEGATIONS IN OUR LAST SESSION, AND IS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN THIS AREA.

10. WE UNDERSTAND AND SHARE THE DESIRE OF THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE RAPID PROGRESS IN CONTROLLING CHEMICAL WEAPONS, BUT WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT GENUINE PROGRESS CAN ONLY

BE MADE BY A CAREFUL STUDY OF ALL THE COMPLEX PROBLEMS INHERENT IN SUCH CONTROL. DURING THIS SESSION WE HOPE THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS WILL JOIN US IN FURTHER EXAMINATION OF POSSIBILITIES FOR ACHIEVING ADEQUATELY VERIFIED PROHIBITIONS ON CW.

11. WE ALSO REMAIN FULLY COMMITTED TO THE OBJECTIVE OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN WITH ADEQUATE VERIFICATION, WHICH WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE WOULD REQUIRE SOME ON-SITE INSPECTION. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE D
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